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2014-07

Implications of Potential Chinese Missile Defense for U.S. Security Interests

Center on Contemporary Conflict

Monterey, California: Naval Postgraduate School.

<http://hdl.handle.net/10945/42480>



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The Project on Advanced Systems and Concepts for Countering WMD (PASCC) is run at the Center on Contemporary Studies (CCC) and sponsored by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency. PASCC awards and supports strategic studies and dialogues that anticipate and try to reduce the threat of WMD capabilities.



The CCC has a respected track record for providing research and timely analysis on a variety of topics to leading decision makers in the U.S. national security community. Located in the Naval Postgraduate School, the CCC is the research wing of the Department of National Security Affairs.

Research in Progress describes ongoing PASCC research. For more information, please contact pascc@nps.edu.

Published July 2014

Implications of Potential Chinese Missile Defense for U.S. Security Interests

Performer: Federation of American Scientists (FAS)

Principal Investigator: Charles Ferguson

Cost: \$149,395

Fiscal Year(s): 2014-2015

Objective:

China conducted a successful ballistic missile defense (BMD) test in 2010 and again in January 2013 and is at least keeping the option open to deploy BMD. But it is unclear which way Beijing may go. This becomes a more urgent issue for consideration as China continues its military and economic rise and faces the upcoming Indian deployment of Agni-5 ballistic missiles.

FAS will assess the possible incentives and disincentives that China may have to deploy some version of its recently tested missile defense system, the weight China may attach to these factors, how that would affect China's security policy, and possible security implications for the United States.

Approach:

The project will involve independent research including an extensive literature review, fact-finding trips (including to Beijing), translation of Chinese information sources, a Missile Defense Hysteresis Assessment (MDHA), and a one-day workshop in Washington, DC. A Senior Advisory Committee will include prominent experts on the research topics. The workshop papers and final report will be released to the public.